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REMODELING THE LIGHTING SYSTEM

More light is possible in many rural homes with the rapid growth of rural electric lines. Where new power is lighting farm homes, most of the users are installing modern fixtures. But in homes where electricity has been available for some time, many farm families can remodel their existing lighting system without much expense to provide better light with less glare, says _____ _____, of the _____ Extension Service.

Lighting experts now recommend much more light and better distributed light in homes than they did formerly. It is better for the eyes, they say, if all light in a room is well diffused, with a minimum of glare, and with no sharp contrast between lighted objects and their background.

_____ points out that possible improvements might include more convenience outlets and switches, more properly designed portable lamps, the shading of bare bulbs, and more powerful light bulbs.

Double or triple convenience outlets in the living room increase the number of table or floor lamps the family can use for such close seeing activities as reading, studying, writing, or sewing. Similarly, extra outlets in bedrooms make it possible to have bureau and bed-side lights and a "reading in bed" light.

Ceiling fixtures, in which bare bulbs are used, may be converted into fixtures giving diffused light by covering the bulbs with individual shades, or by using a diffusing bowl of translucent glass or plastic. For indirect lighting a metal bowl may be used.

White-lined shades of the right shape to spread the light are preferred by lighting specialists, says Miss _____. If their shapes and sizes are good, old shades can be lined with white or painted white on the inside.

Switches close to the entrance of every room are convenient. Where it seems too expensive to install switches, the lighting specialists suggest attaching a cord to the pull-chain of the ceiling fixture, and carrying it across the ceiling and down the wall by the door through screw eyes.

A new Farmers' Bulletin, No. 1838F, Electric Light for the Farmstead, gives other pointers on home lighting. Anyone can get a copy free by writing to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.